

CORLEY et al.

Serial No.: 09/647,711

Response dated December 1, 2008

Response to Office Action dated June 11, 2008

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14 are pending in the present application. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks set forth herein is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1-12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Moricz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,411,950, hereinafter "Moricz") is respectfully traversed.

It is noted that the instant application claims priority to GB 9808988.1, having a priority date of April 27, 1998, and EP 98307123.4, having a priority date of September 4, 1998. Moricz, on the other hand, has an earliest filing date of November 30, 1998. The priority of the instant application renders Moricz unavailable as prior art against the claims of the instant application. As such, any rejection based solely, or in part, on Moricz is improper. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

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Should the Examiner deem that any further issues require resolution prior to allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.



Updeep S. Gill
Registration No. 37,334

USG:dbp
901 North Glebe Road
11th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22203
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100